

PROGRAM



**SYMPOSIUM
ON
WEATHER INFORMATION
FOR
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION**

*Preparing for the Future:
Improved Weather Information
for Decision-Makers*

December 4-6, 2000

**DoubleTreeHotel
Rockville, Maryland**

- Weather Information Needs/Requirements Results
- Government/Commercial Capabilities, Services, and Initiatives
- Technical Risks and Challenges
- Decision Support Capabilities and Services



THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES
AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH (ICMSSR)

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Chairman, Federal Coordinator

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National Science Foundation

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Federal Aviation Administration
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Office of Management and
Budget

DR. JONATHAN M. BERKSON
United States Coast Guard
Department of Transportation

MR. JAMES B. HARRISON, Executive Secretary
Office of the Federal Coordinator for
Meteorological Services and Supporting Research

Cover Photo Credits

- Bus in flooded roadway resulting from Hurricane Floyd, Whiten, Twp., PA--Courtesy of AP Press
- Amtrak derailed at Saco, MT, due to track distortion--Courtesy of Mr. Richard C. Logan
- *MORRO BAY (WTGB-106), a 140-foot Bay-class, state-of-the-art Icebreaker, on-station in the Great Lakes (www.uscg.mil/datasheet).*
- Snow and snow covered I-495--Courtesy of Mr. Blaine Tsugawa

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Acknowledgements

The co-sponsors of the Symposium on Weather Information for Surface Transportation, the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology and the U.S. Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration, wish to thank all those individuals, agencies, and organizations attending and participating in this forum. We are particularly gratefully to those individuals and agency representatives who are serving as moderators, panelists, and rapporteurs throughout this forum.

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ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM

The Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology (OFCM) and the U.S. Department of Transportation – Federal Highway Administration (USDOT-FHWA) are co-sponsoring this symposium.

Since the first WIST symposium (December 1999), the OFCM staff, on behalf of the federal agencies, has queried over 750 federal, state, and local agencies as well as other professional surface transportation organizations to identify user needs and requirements for weather information. The surveys and questionnaires focused on four transportation modes--roadways, railways, waterways, and pipelines. This information was compiled in a database to enable queries and analysis. The symposium will provide an opportunity for participants to discuss and validate these user needs and requirements.

In addition to reports on weather requirements, the second WIST symposium will provide updates on weather support capabilities, services, and initiatives. The symposium will also facilitate the interaction between agencies, organizations, and other users to help design improved weather information for direct use by decision-makers in surface transportation systems across the Nation.

**Symposium on
Weather Information For Surface Transportation**
Preparing for the Future: Improved Weather Information for Decision-Makers

AGENDA

Monday, December 4, 2000

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 7:30 AM | Registration and Continental Breakfast |
| 9:00 AM | Introduction/Welcome/Forum Objectives
Mr. Samuel P. Williamson
Federal Coordinator |
| 9:45 AM | Intermodal Transportation Systems
Mr. Jeff Paniati, Deputy Director Joint Program Office |
| 10:15 AM | Break |
| 10:30 AM | FORETELL - Demonstration Project
Mr. Collin Wilson, Castle Rock Consultants |
| 11:00 AM | Requirements Review and Analysis Process
Mr. Christopher Moren, OFCM (STC) |
| 11:30 AM | Lunch |
| 1:00 PM | Panel 1 - Weather Information Needs/Requirements Results
Moderator: Mr. Douglas Jonas, Matrix Management
Group
Rapporteur: Mr. Christopher Moren, OFCM (STC)
Rapporteur: Mr. Blaine Tsugawa, OFCM

Panelists:
Mr. David Whatley, DOT-FAA
Mr. Paul Pisano, DOT-FHWA
Mr. Arthur Handman, DOT-FTA
Mr. William Browder, AAR Director of Operations
Trooper Scott Reinacher, National Coalition of State Troopers

Discussion/Wrap Up |

Monday, December 4, 2000 (cont.)

3:00 PM Break

3:30 PM Panel 2A - Government Capabilities, Services, and Initiatives
Moderator: Ms. Faye Arvonio, USPS
Rapporteur: Mr. Michael Tomlinson, DOC-NWS
Rapporteur: Ms. Charlene Wilder, DOT-FTA

Panelists:

Dr. Greg Mandt, DOC-NWS
Lt Col Gerald Borger, DOD-USTRANSCOM
Mr. Lewis Moore, DOI-BuREC
Ms. Bonnie Mason, USDA
Mr. John Gambel, FEMA

Discussion/Wrap Up

5:15 PM Reception/Mixer

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

7:30 AM	Continental Breakfast
8:30 AM	Recap of Panels 1 and 2A Col (Sel) Mark Welshinger, OFCM (USAF) and Mr. Blaine Tsugawa, OFCM
9:00 AM	Panel 2B - Commercial Capabilities, Services, and Initiatives Moderator: Ms. Sandy Thompson; NWA TV Committee Rapporteur: Col (sel) David Smarsh, DOD-USAF Rapporteur: Ms. Cynthia Nelson, OFCM Panelists: Dr. Greg Forbes, The Weather Channel Ms. Maria Pirone, Commercial Weather Services Association/Weather Services Incorporated Mr. Mike Smith, Weather Data, Inc. Mr. Edwin Bowers, Smart Routes System Ms. Julie Campbell, Campbell Marketing Group Discussion/Wrap Up
10:30 AM	Break
11:00 AM	Panel 3 - Technical Risks and Challenges Moderator: Mr. Kenneth Kobetsky, AASHTO Rapporteur: Mr. Thomas Fraim, OFCM Rapporteur: Mr. Gary Nelson, MITRETEK Panelists: Prof. Leon Osborne, University of North Dakota Mr. Bill Mahoney, National Center Atmospheric Research Dr. Paul Jovanis, Pennsylvania State University Mr. Bradley Skarpness, Battelle Discussion/Wrap Up
12:15 PM	Lunch

Tuesday, December 5, 2000 (cont.)

- 12:45 PM Luncheon Speaker
Mr. Doug Frye, George Mason University School of Public Policy
"511 Implementation in Washington DC Metro area"
- 1:15 PM Break
- 1:30 PM Panel 4A - Government Decision Support Capabilities and Services
Moderator: Ms. Shelley J. Row, DOT-FHWA
Rapporteur: Mr. Floyd Hauth, OFCM (STC)
Rapporteur: Dr. Wayne Estabrooks, DOD-USN
- Panelists:
Mr. Louis Lombardo, NHTSA
Mr. Paul Pisano, DOT-FHWA
Mr. Richard Wagoner, NCAR
Mr. Edward Brigham, DOT-RSPA
Mr. Jack Requa, WMATA
Mr. Emil Wolanin, Montgomery County Advanced Traffic Management System
- Discussion/Wrap Up
- 3:15 PM Break
- 3:30 PM Panel 4B - Commercial Decision Support Capabilities and Services
Moderator: Mr. Todd Glickman, MIT
Rapporteur: Mr. Bradley Rippey, USDA
Rapporteur: Mr. Donald Carver, OFCM (FAA)
- Panelists:
Dr. Greg Forbes, The Weather Channel
Mr. Lester Yoshida, Surface Systems, Inc.
Mr. Peter Gauer, Montana State University
Mr. Hank Pomeranz, GeoWeather Solutions
Mr. Robert Wright, Planning Systems Inc.
- Discussion/Wrap Up
- 5:00 PM Adjourn for the day

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

7:30 AM	Continental Breakfast
9:00 AM	Recap of Panels 2B, 3, and 4 Col (sel) Mark Welshinger, OFCM (USAF) and Mr. Blaine Tsugawa, OFCM
10:00 AM	Next Steps/Action Plan - Mr. Samuel P. Williamson, Federal Coordinator
11:00 AM	Adjourn

**MEMBERS
JOINT ACTION GROUP
FOR WEATHER INFORMATION
FOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION**

OFCM	-	Mr. Blaine Tsugawa, OFCM
DOC	-	Mr. Michael Tomlinson, NOAA/NWS
DOD	-	Col (sel) David Smarsh, USAF, Deputy to NOAA
	-	Lt Col Gerald Borger, USAF, USTRANSCOM
DOE	-	Mr. Rickey Petty, ESD
DOI	-	Mr. Lewis Moore, BuREC
DOT	-	Mr. Paul Pisano, FHWA
	-	Mr. Donald Plotkin, FRA
	-	Ms. Charlene Wilder, FTA
	-	Mr. Michael Rossetti, RSPA/Volpe Center
	-	Dr. Jonathan Berkson, USCG
EPA	-	Mr. William Russo
FEMA	-	Mr. John Gambel
NASA	-	Dr. Ramesh Kakar
NRC	-	Ms. Leta Brown
NTSB	-	Mr. Donald Eick
USDA	-	Mr. Bradley Rippey
USPS	-	Ms. Faye Arvonio